

2015 Mississippi Autism Board

October 2, 2015 9:30 am

401 Mississippi Street

Jackson, MS 39201

MINUTES

A third, special meeting of the Mississippi Autism Board (“Board”) was called to order on Friday October 2, 2015, at 9:34 a.m. at the Secretary of State’s Office in the Heber Ladner Building, 401 Mississippi Street, Jackson, Mississippi.

Attendees: Kasee Stratton-Secretary, James Moore-Chairman, Nicole Boyd- Board Member (teleconference), Emily Johnson-Board Member, Curtis Anders – Staff Attorney, Mississippi Secretary of State, Members of the public - Lisa Bryant, Lee Underwood, Joe Olmi, Sarah Broom, and Wayne Williams.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests

Dr. James Moore, Chairman, provided opening remarks and welcomed representatives and guests in attendance from the Mississippi Psychology Board, Mississippi Center for Autism, Autism Services at the Boswell Regional Center, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mississippi.

First Matter of Business

The first matter of business brought by the Board regarded approval of the July 24, 2015 Board meeting minutes. A motion was made by Johnson to accept the minutes as presented and seconded by Moore to accept the minutes as presented. The Board unanimously passed the motion.

Second Matter of Business

The second matter of business brought by the Board regarded approval of the draft scope of practice letter for Board Certified Behavior Analysts and Assistant Behavior Analysts as requested by Medicaid. Stratton suggested an addition of language from the statute for the Registered Behavior Technician and a motion was made by Moore to accept the draft letter with additions for the behavior technician. Johnson seconded and the Board unanimously passed the motion.

Third Matter of Business

The third matter of business brought by the Board was to discuss the proposed Rules and Regulations as of the latest draft from July 24, 2015. A discussion of each subchapter followed:

Subchapter 1: A motion was made by Moore to accept subchapter 1 as presented and seconded by Stratton. No further discussion followed and the motion was passed unanimously.

Subchapter 2: A motion was made by Moore to accept subchapter 2 as presented, seconded by Johnson, and unanimously passed.

Subchapter 3: Moore moved to accept subchapter 3 as written and Stratton seconded. Discussion was open to the broadness of the term “oral examination”

and edits to the previous edition were noted. Moore further amended his motion to include changing the numbering of all further subchapters given current numbering errors; for example, Rule 4.5 would become Rule 3.5. The amended motion unanimously passed.

Subchapter 4 (previously Subchapter 5): A motion was made by Moore to accept subchapter 4 as written. Stratton seconded the motion and no further discussion was presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Subchapter 5: A motion was made by Moore to accept subchapter 5 as written and was seconded by Stratton. No further discussion followed and the motion was passed unanimously.

Subchapter 6: Moore made a motion to accept subchapter 6. His motion was seconded by Johnson and passed unanimously.

Subchapter 7: A motion was made by Moore to accept subchapter 7 and seconded by Stratton. During discussion, a review of previous changes was provided. The 50% online rule for continuing education was also discussed. Following discussion, Moore amended the original motion for subchapter 7 to accept subchapter 7 contingent on the revision of 7.2 Paragraph C to include “Licensee may petition the Board for consideration of approval for synchronous (i.e. live or interactive) online training beyond that of the 50% limit.” Stratton seconded the amended motion and there was no further discussion. The amended motion passed unanimously.

Subchapter 8: Moore made a motion to accept subchapter 8 as written and Boyd seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Subchapter 9: Moore made a motion to accept subchapter 9 as presented and Boyd seconded. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Subchapter 10: A motion was made by Moore to accept subchapter 10 in its current form. Johnson seconded and a discussion and a review of fees followed. The motion passed unanimously.

Subchapter 11: Moore made a motion to accept subchapter 11 in its current form and Johnson seconded. No discussion followed and the motion passed unanimously.

Subchapter 12: Moore made a motion to accept subchapter 12 in its current form. Johnson seconded the motion. No discussion followed and the motion passed unanimously.

Third Matter of Business- Communications to the Board

The fourth matter of business included a time for open communication to the Board. The Mississippi Board of Psychology invites a member of the Mississippi Autism Board to attend the Psychology Board’s meetings. Representative of the Psychology Board, Dr. Olmi further addressed their oral examinations. Eight (8) content areas are covered during the oral examination, in addition to a written examination beyond that of the Examination for Professional Practice of Psychology (EPPP). The Psychology Board has three board meetings involved in oral examinations and all proceedings are audio recorded. The group then makes a recommendation to board as a whole. Subparts may be re-administered.

Following this discussion, Chairman Moore make a motion to appoint a committee made up of Drs. Johnson and Stratton to explore implementation of the oral examination and report back to the Board. Stratton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Moore noted that the Board is awaiting final appointment for the behavior analyst position by Lt. Governor Reeves. Ms. Boyd and Dr. Johnson reported having spoke with the Lt. Governor's office and believed the position would be appointed in the near future. Chairman Moore stated that Behavior Analyst Association of Mississippi (BAAMS) has provided recommendations for Nelima Duncan or Bailey King. Chairman Moore continues to strongly support these recommendations.

Fourth Matter of Business

The fourth matter of business brought by the Board was the approval of the Rules and Regulations. A motion was made by Moore to adopt the Rules and Regulations of licensure of behavior analysts and assistant behavior analysts in the current form. Boyd seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Moore also made a motion to submit forms for public comment today, according to state standards. Johnson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Board members were encouraged to share this information once posted for public comment.

Lastly, Moore moved to call a meeting to correspond with the close of the 30-day public comment and publicize as much as possible such a public meeting. Johnson seconded and no further discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously.

Fifth Matter of Business

Stratton made a motion to table discussion and approval of application forms until after the close of the 30-day public comment. Johnson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

No new business was brought forward to the Board.

Conclusion of Meeting

In closing, Chairman Moore and the Board gave thanks to guests for their public comment and support. Additional legislative support for training and creation of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) programs in the state will be needed. With no further business, Moore moved to conclude the meeting at 11:35 am. Johnson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.